ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Techniques are provided for designing a circuit that satisfies user-specified functional requirements without the user having to obtain additional education or possess specialized software. According to one embodiment, user-specified functional requirements are received over a network from a client executing a browser. The network may be, for example, the Internet. Based on the user-specified requirements, components and a topology for constructing the circuit are automatically determined. The components determined during this operation have operational values such that, when the components are arranged according to the topology to form the circuit, the circuit satisfies the user-specified functional requirements. One or more web pages that identify the components are then delivered to the browser over the network. According to one aspect of the invention, the component and topology information is used to generate a schematic diagram that is delivered in a web page to the user over the network. According to another aspect of the invention, the user is provided with a web page that has a control which, when selected, initiates an operation for placing an order over said network for one of the components, a kit of all of the components, a custom made circuit made from the components, and/or a prefabricated circuit that is functionally similar to the one that was designed.